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Juvenile Offender Legal Financial Obligations DJA/ Clerk's Office Overview May 2012

- Per RCW 7.68.035(1)(b) a \$100 Crime Victim Penalty is assessed on all felony and gross misdemeanor convictions. A \$75 Crime Victim Penalty is assessed on all misdemeanor convictions. This fee cannot be waived.
- 2. Trust fees are authorized per KCC 4A.30.120(B)(2). The fee is \$10 on each restitution payment of \$25.01 and over. Trust fees can be waived but must be done per court order. This fee only applies to payment processed through the court's registry (i.e. to payments of restitution). It is not collected when the payment is applied to fines or fees.
- 3. If a respondent pays the entire amount of legal financial obligations off in one lump sum payment, and this payment includes payment of restitution, the trust fee would still apply unless it is waived by court order.
- 4. LFO collection work is within the jurisdiction of JPCs through the term of probation.
- 5. When the offender reaches the age of 18, if there are still LFOs owing, DJA establishes a judgment in the judgments docket for the remaining LFO balance. Once the judgment is established the balance at that time begins accruing interest and DJA becomes responsible for collection of the LFO. A copy of the financial history screen is filed at that time to document the amount of the judgment. This judgment is valid at least ten years from the date of disposition, and can be extended for an additional ten year period.
- 6. Once DJA becomes responsible for collection of the LFO, it may assess a \$100 collection fee, as authorized in RCW 36.18.016. DJA will only assess this fee if an offender is delinquent. If they are identified as being delinquent, they are sent notice of the delinquency and are given a minimum of 30 days to cure the delinquency. If, after notice and passage of at least 30 days, the offender is delinquent, DJA may assess this fee. This is a statutory fee which is not subject to waiver.
- 7. Interest does not start accruing on juvenile offender cases until a judgment is established when the juvenile is 18 years of age or older and still owes legal financial obligations as a result of a juvenile offender matter. Interest accrues at a rate of 12% per statute.

- 8. Interest on fines and fees may be waived by court order. Interest on restitution may be reduced by court order if the court enters findings as described in RCW 10.82.090.
- 9. If the court wishes to structure payments for a single offender such that they are "consecutive" across multiple offender cases, they could enter an order to the effect of "payments on the current case are to be made after (or before) payments on all prior cases". The court needs to be aware that DJA has no way to enforce this, so if this is the court's intent, the court needs to be clear with the offender that they must advise DJA when making payments, the proper case numbers to apply payments to.